

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 OMB-01 TAR-02 AGR-20

AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 OIC-04

RSC-01 SIL-01 STR-08 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 CEA-02 RSR-01

AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03

NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 SCI-06 EPA-04 CEQ-02

AEC-11 ACDA-19 NIC-01 /275 W
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R 131450Z AUG 73

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1141

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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US MISSION OECD PARIS 6273

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UNCTAD

SUBJ: UNCTAD: COMMITTEE ON MANUFACTURES--PLENARY SESSION,
FIRST WEEK

BEGIN SUMMARY: PLENARY SESSION OF MANUFACTURES COMMITTEE
OFF TO SLUGGISH START. SUBSTANTIVE DEBATE ON REVIEW OF
TRADE IN MANUFACTURES, TARIFF RECLASSIFICATION AND ENVIRON-
MENT (ITEMS 3, 5 AND 6 RESPECTIVELY) HAS BEEN BRIEF AND
NOTICEABLY DEVOID OF CONFRONTATION, WITH MOST PROVOCATIVE
STATEMENTS COMING FROM ZAIRE AND CHILE (CUBILLOS). NTB
SESSIONAL REPORTED SEPTEL. END SUMMARY.

1. SIXTH SESSION OF COMMITTEE ON MANUFACTURES (CM VI) GOT
OFF TO SLOW AND DULL START. SEVERAL MEETINGS OF BOTH PLENARY
AND SESSIONAL COMMITTEE HAD TO BE CANCELLED OR
TERMINATED EARLY BECAUSE OF LACK OF SPEAKERS. GERMANY
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(KUHN) ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF PLENARY AND PAKISTAN (SALIM)

RAPPORTEUR. BELGIUM (POSWICK) IS GROUP B (DEVELOPED COUNTRIES) COORDINATOR. DEVELOPING COUNTRIES PRESSED HARD FOR OFFICERS IN SESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON NON-TARIFF TRADE BARRIERS (NTBS); ZAIRE (KASASA) ELECTED CHAIRMAN AND JAMAICA (HALL) RAPPORTEUR. UK (GRAY) IS GROUP B COORDINATOR.

2. EC DECIDED NOT PRESS FOR DELETION OF AGENDA ITEMS ON ENVIRONMENT (ITEM 6) AND SAFEGUARDS AND STANDSTILL (ITEM 4(D)) BECAUSE OF RESISTANCE BY DUTCH AND GENERAL LACK OF ENTHUSIASM IN GROUP B BEGIN MEETING ON SOUR NOTE. IN PLENARY, COORDINATOR MADE STATEMENT THAT MAJORITY OF GROUP B COUNTRIES UNLIKELY BE ABLE DISCUSS IN DEPTH PORTIONS OF AGENDA NOTABLY ENVIRONMENT AND SOME SUB-ITEMS ON NTBS.

3. WHILE OVER 20 DELS SPOKE, DEBATE ON TRENDS IN EXPORTS OF MANUFACTURES (ITEM 3) WAS BRIEF. GROUP B COUNTRIES EMPHASIZED PROGRESS BEING MADE AND EACH DEL POINTED OUT CONTRIBUTIONS OF ITS COUNTRY. SOCIALIST COUNTRIES MORE CRITICAL OF PROGRESS AND MORE VERBOSE ON DETAILS OF THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS. GROUP OF 77 SPOKESMAN (NAIK, PAKISTAN) MADE RELATIVELY BALANCED PRESENTATION NOTING STRONG GROWTH BUT CONTINUED LOW SHARE OF MARKET FOR EXPORTS OF MANUFACTURES FROM LDCS. CHILE (CUBILLOS) WAS ONLY DEL TO MAKE GENERAL POLICY STATEMENT ON WHOLE AGENDA. CUBILLOS SAID RESULTS OF GATTT PREPCOM OFOR MTN UNSATISFACTORY AND COMMITTEE SHOULD ADOPT RESOLUTION OR DECLARATION (ALONG LINES CHILEAN PROPOSALS IN PREPCOM) OUTLINING VIEWS OF LDCS FOR MINISTERS IN TOKYO. ON RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES, HE MADE NO ATTACK ON US AND COMMENTS ON ALLEGED ABUSES OF MULTINATIONALCORPORATIONS RESTRAINED. NO DEL ENDORSED CHILEAN STATEMENT. ZAIRE, HOWEVER, MADE EMOTIONAL SPEECH CONDEMNING RICH COUNTRIES FOR DEPLORABLE FAILURE TO ASSIST LDCS IN RAISING SHARE OF MARKET AND NARROWING DEVELOPMENT GAP.

4. ONLY HANDFUL OF SPEAKERS TOOK FLOOR ON TARIFF RE-CLASSIFICATION (ITEM 5) AND ENVIRONMENT (ITEM 6). GROUP B MADE COMMON STATEMENT AGAINST RECONVENING OF EXPERT GROUP. UNCLASSIFIED

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INDIA RALLIED AN UNENTHUSIASTIC GROUP OF 77 TO SUPPORT ANOTHER EXPERT GROUP. RESULT WAS SAME COMPROMISE FORMULA AS AT PREVIOUS SESSION, I.E., UNCTAD SG WILL CONSULT WITH INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS.

5. ON ENVIRONMENT, CHILE AND BRAZIL CRITICIZED SECRE-TARIAT FOR INACTIVITY IN THIS AREA. ON BEHALF OF GROUP OF 77, VIET NAM PROPOSED THAT COMMITTEE ENDORSE IDENTIFICA-

TION AND EVALUATION ROLE FOR UNCTAD IN AREA OF ENVIRONMENTAL NTBS AND ASKED FOR SECRETARIAT STUDY FOR PRESENTATION TO TDB XIII CLARIFYING WHERE LDCS CAN GO (E.G. GATT, UNEP, UNCTAD) TO OBTAIN THEIR COMPENSATION FOR LOSSES FROM ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS. HE CITED CASE OF ONE LDC WHICH HAD TO DESTROY \$20 MILLION OF PRODUCTS BECAUSE OF ALLEGED CONTAMINATION AND NEED CLARIFY WHO WILL COMPENSATE LDC FOR THIS LOSS. GROUP B SPOKESMAN NOTED MANY DEVELOP COUNTRIES DID NOT ACCEPT STOCKHOLM RECOMMENDATIONS 103 (B) AND 109 WHICH DEALT WITH COMPENSATION. SAID PREMATURE TO DECIDE ON ANY STUDIES OR OTHER ACTION BECAUSE BOARD HAD NOT YET DIVIDED RESPONSIBILITIES WITHIN UNCTAD. WHOLE ISSUE OF ROLE OF UNCTAD IN ENVIRONMENT LEFT OPEN FOR BOARD. SHOULD BE NOTED THAT IN GROUP B THERE NO AGREEMENT ON WHO SHOULD DO MONITORING OF ENVIRONMENTAL NTBS AND MUCH RELUCTANCE TO PRONOUNCE ON ROLE OF GATT AS SUGGESTED IN US POSITION PAPER FOR FEAR OF UNNECESSARILY RAISING IRE OF LDCS ON THIS SENSITIVE INSTITUTIONAL QUESTION.

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